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Dr. Julius Goebel began on Wednesday, January 5, a course of eight lectures (in German) on *German Literature*. This course was undertaken at the request of leading citizens of Baltimore. It has been continued on successive Wednesdays, at 8 p. m., in the smaller hall of the Academy of Music. The special subjects are as follows:

1. The beginnings and earliest documents of German literature.
2. The Minnesang (Walther von der Vogelweide.)
3. The great Mediæval Epics.
4. Literature in the time of the Reformation.
5. Lessing and Herder.
6. Schiller.
7. Goethe.
8. The Romanticists.

Dr. Henry Wood, Associate Professor of German in the Johns Hopkins University, began, on January 25th, a course of lectures on the *Nibelungenlied*. The subjects of the lectures are as follows:—

1. Introduction. Successive periods of German life represented in the *Nibelungenlied*. The story as a growth.
2. The mythical and historical elements. The Norse and German legend compared. Composition of the Epic.
- 3, 4. Brunhild, Siegfried, Kriemhild, Hagen. Analysis of character and action. Readings.
- 5, 6. Kriemhild as avenger. The journey to Hunnenland; Etzel, Dietrich, Margrave Ruediger.
7. The fall of the Nibelungs.
8. Wagner's Ring des Nibelungen in its relation to the Saga and the Epic.

PERSONAL.

Professor Erich Schmidt, director of the *Goethe-Archiv* in Weimar and author of 'Lessings Leben' and various monographs, has been called to Berlin to fill the chair of the late Wilhelm Scherer. He will be succeeded by Bernhard Suphan, the editor of 'Herders Werke.' In view of its proposed large and critical edition of Goethe's Werke, the Goethe Society must be congratulated on having secured the services of so eminent a scholar as Suphan, who has given the German nation the best critical edition of one of its great classics.

Professor L. Clédat, of the *Faculté des Lettres*, Lyons, France, purposes to establish soon a new serial publication under the title, *Revue des patois franco-provençaux*. It is with great pleasure that we are able to announce this fact and we shall give full particulars concerning the new venture as soon as the prospectus reaches us.

Percy B. Burnet was appointed at the opening of the present year, Instructor in German at Indiana University (Bloomington). Mr. Burnet is a graduate of Vincennes University (Indiana) and afterward (1884) took the degree of B. L. in the Modern Language Course of Indiana University. He then went abroad to study German and French for a year, dividing his time between Leipsic and Paris.

Professor J. S. Blackwell, of the University of Missouri [Columbia,] is preparing for American students a manual on German Prefixes and Suffixes, both for the "echte und unechte Zusammensetzungen." This work will deal with the practical features of the subject rather than with the etymological and will probably run to two hundred pages, 12mo. It is now intended to have it published during the coming summer vacation.

Dr. H. Körting, (Leipsic,) whose *Geschichte des französischen Romans im XVII. Jahrhundert* has already been noticed in these columns (cf. MODERN LANGUAGE NOTES, vol. II. p. 19) is at present engaged on the *édité princeps* of an extensive Old French Epos of a moral-satirical, allegorical character. It is the little known 'Echeos amoureux', of the Dresden Codex, a poem that contains 30,000 verses and is of great interest for the study of the customs, habits and history of the closing Epoch of the Romance Middle Ages. It is also of importance as a poetic outgrowth of the 'Roman de la Rose' and of the 'Tesoretto.' The editor purposes, in the 'Introduction,' to give us a short history of the Allegorical Middle Age Novel, the need of which has been so sorely felt up to the present time; the text will be accompanied by all the *variae lectiones* and followed by a glossary containing all peculiar or important words to be found in the poem. It will probably require about two years yet to finish the work.

Professor Gustav Körting (Münster), author of the 'Encyklopädie der romanischen Philologie' and brother of the above, has in press a 'Compendium der englischen Literaturgeschichte' and also a monograph combating the idea of the 'Deutsche Einheitschule.' Dr. Einkenel (Münster) has well under way his important Chaucer-Syntax studies, which will be out about Easter time.

Rev. Dr. John Pollard was called at the beginning of the present academie year to the Chair of English in Richmond College, Richmond, Va. Dr. Pollard was graduated in 1860 at Columbian University [Washington, D. C.] which institution conferred on him the degree of M. A. in 1867 and of D.D. in 1877. He has been in the pastorate for the last twenty-five years, having served churches in Baltimore and Richmond, and resigned his charge in the latter city to accept the position that he now holds.

Melville B. Anderson, A. M., was called last June to the chair of English and History in Purdue University, Lafayette, Indiana. Professor Anderson spent two years at Cornell University (1870-72,) after which he taught for three years, then went to Göttingen where, together with Lausanne and Paris, he passed the following two years [1875-77] in attending lectures and studying the French and the German literatures. Returning to America, he was for three years [1877-80] Professor of French and German at Butler University (Indiana), then for one year Teacher of English and German at the Indianapolis High School. After this, he was called (1881) to the Chair of English literature and French in Knox College, Galesburg, Ill., where he remained up to the entrance upon his present duties, as successor of Professor E. E. Smith.

Professor Anderson is a frequent contributor on subjects connected with English literature, to the well-known Chicago literary monthly, *The Dial*, and has just brought out a translation into English of Victor Hugo's "Shakespeare," a handsome volume of about 450 pages [A. C. McClurg & Co., Chicago, Publishers].

The English Folk-Lore Society has invited Professor T. F. Crane, of Cornell University,

to edit for the society the Jacques de Vitry 'Exempla.' It is a compliment to American scholarship in this line that they voted to entrust the work to Professor Crane without any limitations whatever. The work will probably be ready before the end of this year.

Mr. N. du Puitspelu has just published at Lyons (Georg, Publisher) the first installment [112 pp.] of a *Dictionnaire étymologique du patois lyonnais*.

OBITUARY.

On November 28th, 1886, Dr. Joseph Haller, died at Munich (Bavaria), in the seventy-sixth year of his age. He is especially known to Romance scholars by his important work, in two volumes, entitled: 'Altspanische Sprichwörter und sprichwörtliche Redensarten aus den Zeiten vor Cervantes.' (Regensburg, 1883).

JOURNAL NOTICES.

Wochenschrift für Klassische Philologie.

No. 3.—H. SCHUCHARDT, Romanisches u. Keltisches (H. Ziemer).

Literarisches Centralblatt.

No. 1.—DIETZ, DR. MAX, Geschichte des Musikalischen Dramas in Frankreich während der Revolution bis zum Directorium (1787-1795), Wien, 1885.

Author deserves praise for having devoted a special work to this period; a revision of the plan recommended; too much attention given to the purely political features of the subject; strictures on the classification.

No. 4.—*Alessandro Manzoni*, la sua famiglia, i suoi amici. Appunti e memorie di S. S. Milans. Hoepli, 500 pp.

Polemic against Cantù; results of twenty-four years of intimacy with the Italian novelist; must be regarded "als Grundlage jedes Manzoni-Studiums."

MIKLOSICH, FRANZ, Etymologisches Wörterbuch der Slavischen Sprachen. Wien, 1886. 548 pp., M 20.

"Das werk gehört zu denen, welche jedem Forscher unentbehrlich sind."